(v) Procedure for project approvals has been streamlined.

(vi) Ministry of Power has been advised to import about 14 million—tonnes of Coal during 2005-06.

As a result of these efforts, the coal production has increased to 382.14 million tonnes in 2004-05 from 359.80 million tonnes in 2003-04 registering a growth of 6.2%.

Procurement norms

1130. DR. M.A.M. RAMASWAMY:
SHRI THENNALA G. BALAKRISHNA PILLAI:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to make it mandatory for State owned public Sector Undertaking under its control to procure equipments from only those manufacturers based in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reasons therefor;

(d) whether BSNL and other PSUs under its control have raised certain objections in view of the high competitive market; and

(e) if so, the parity sought by BSNL/MTNL in procurement norms?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) to (e) Indigenous manufacture of telephone equipments is felt desirable with the objective, *inter alia,* of the availability of desired quality/standard products at competitive rates, immediate availability of after-sales services and development of new technologies in the Country. A procurement framework, whereby only vendors who indigenously manufacture (or have definite plans to do so) certain telecom products are alone eligible for procurement is under active consideraton by BSNL and MTNL.

Pricing trends in BPO sector

1131. SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state: